PRESTON.

1963.

PORT HEALTH ADMINISTRATION

Port Health District.

The Port Health District of Preston extends from Formby Point on the south to a point 2,350 yards south of Victoria Pier, South Shore, Blackpool, on the north. The dock, which is 3,200 feet long by 600 feet wide, covers 40 acres and is approached by the entrance basin, 850 feet long by 300 feet wide, an area of 4¾ acres.

The communicating locks are 550 feet long and 66 feet wide, with a depth of 29'6" at high water ordinary spring tide. The dock is situated within the county borough and is about 16 miles along the River Ribble from the sea.

The quays are over 1½ miles long. There are 170 acres of storage ground and 590,000 superficial feet of covered floor space.

The Port Medical Officer, his Deputy, and two Assistant Medical Officers are appointed Medical Inspectors for the Aliens Order 1953 and the Commonwealth Immigration Act 1962. No difficulties were experienced from the medical side during the time.

The improvement in the bacteriological standard of ship's drinking water tanks was maintained. Only three samples out of the twenty-one tanks tested had any coliform count and, of these three, only one tank showed the presence of faecal B. Coli. This latter tank after cleaning and sterilisation gave no further trouble.

There was a further increase in the sailings and services to Ireland utilising trailers and containers, 1963 being a record year in the nett tonnage of cargo handled. Two new services commenced during the year one to Waterford and an additional Dublin service.

The laying of the new main drainage along the south side of the dock was completed. This included the construction of two pumping stations with sewage ejectors made necessary by the flat nature of the ground. A number of premises which originally discharged sewage direct into the river or via septic tanks are now connected to the new sewerage system and this reduces the general pollution in the river. Several of the old trough closets still require replacement together with the provision of additional accommodation.

Staffing difficulties were experienced due to the resignation of the Port Health Inspector in the early part of the year. This, combined with illness amongst Port Health staff, necessitated the training of additional staff to handle the increase in the amount of shipping using the Port.

The inclusion of the Port of Stockholm, Sweden, as an infected Port due to an outbreak of smallpox, in the spring and summer months, created additional work. The majority of foreign shipping using the Port is of Baltic origin and several ships arriving were from Sweden during this period. No cases of smallpox occurred.

Co-operation by H.M. Customs Officers, H.M. Immigration Officers, The Trinity House Pilots, the officials and staff of the Ribble Navigation and Preston Dock undertaking, the shipping agents and others who have been contacted about various matters, has assisted in the smooth working of the Authority's services.

Section I - Staff.

TABLE A.

Name of Officer	Nature of Appointment	Date of Appointment	Qualifications	Any other appointment held
J.S.G. Burnett	Port Medical Officer	1.2. 49	M.D., D.P.H.	Medical Officer of Health
R.G. Murray	Deputy Port Medical Officer	12.5. 60 to 21.4. 63	M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.	Deputy Medical Officer of Health
I.G.P. Fraser	Deputy Port Medical Officer	10.6. 63	M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.	Deputy Medical Officer of Health
N.M. Sampson	Port Health Inspector	3.3. 58 to 19.4. 63	Cert. R.S.I. Dip. Insp. Meat & Food	District Public Health Inspector
J.H. Pendlebury	Deputy Port Health Inspector Acting Port Health Inspector	21.8. 62 to 19.4. 63 19.4. 63	Cert. P.H.I.E.B.	District Public Health Inspector
F. Yates	Deputy Port Health Inspector	17.7. 55 to 21.8. 62 and 19.4.63	Cert R.S.I. Cert Meat and Food	Housing Inspector/ Public Health Inspector

Address and Telephone Number of the Medical Officer of Health

Health Department, Municipal Building, Preston.
Telephone No: Preston 4881.

Private address:

Brook House, 252, Garstang Road, Fulwood, Preston.
Telephone No: Preston 77784.

Section II - Amount of Shipping entering the district during the year.

TABLE B.

Ships from	Number	Tonnage	Number inspected		Number of ships reported as having or having had during the voyage infectious disease on board
			By the Medical Officer of Health	By the Public Health Inspectors	
Foreign Ports	416	290,635	35	415	-
Coastwise	2,368	1,187,357	-	76	-
TOTAL	2,784	1,477,992	35	491	-

Section III - Character of Shipping and Trade during the Year.

TABLE C.

Passenger Traffic	Number of passengers	INWARDS	6,427
		OUTWARDS	6,792

Passengers to and from		FOREIGN PORTS	IRISH FERRY SERVICE
Passengers in:-			
	Alien	20	(6,317
	British	90	(
Passengers out:-			
	Alien	6	(
	British	28	(6,758

CARGO TRAFFIC.

Principal Imports.

Animal feeding stuffs, asphalt rock, bacon, bananas, bitumen, canned goods, china clay, citrus fruits, cloth goods, coconuts, confectionery, eggs, fertiliser, fish, flour, fuel oils, grain, hardboard, hides, lard, maize, meat, milk, milk products, petroleum, potatoes, poultry., potash, scrap iron, shell grit, starch, stone, sulphur, timber, wood pulp.

Principal Exports.

Barbed wire, canned goods, cloth goods, coal, coke, cotton, fruit, fuel oils, furniture, iron and steel, machinery, pitch, radio equipment, salt cake, scrap iron, tar, vehicles.

Total imports	1961	1,086,467 tons.
Total exports	1961	609,015 tons.
Total imports	1962	1,146,570 tons.
Total exports	1962	690,758 tons.
Total imports	1963	1,197,002 tons.
Total exports	1963	764,388 tons.

Principal ports from which ships arrive.

Foreign.

North Africa:	Kenitra.
North America:	Hanlsford, Long View, New Richmond, New York, Parrsboro N.S., Quebec, St. John, N.B., Vancouver, Weymouth, N.S., Windsor, N.S.
Antilles:	Grenada, Kingstown, Port Castries, Port of Spain, Portsmouth, Roseau, St. George, St. Vincent, Vieux Fort.
Cyprus:	Famagusta.
Denmark:	Copenhagen, Frederiksund, Koge.
Finland:	Helsingfors, Jacobstad, Kemi, Kotka, Mantyluoto, Oulo, Pori, Rauma, Topilla, Turku, Vasa, Yxpilia.
France:	Bayonne, Blaye, Bordeaux, Brest, Cette, Dieppe, La Pallice, Le Treport, Lorient, Nantes, St. Nazaire.
Germany:	Bremen, Hamburg, Wismar.
Greece:	Kymassi.
Holland:	Amsterdam, Delfzyl, Groningen, Rotterdam.
Italy:	Ravenna.
Norway:	Aalesund, Arendal, Bergen, Drammen, Fredrikstad, Haugesund, Kragero, Kristiansund, N., Larvick, Lousnes, Mo-i-Rana, Namsos, Narvik, Oplo, Oslo, Porsgrunn, Skien, Stavanger, Tofte, Tredestrand, Tromso, Trondheim.
Poland:	Gdansk, Gdynia, Stettin.
Portugal:	Lexioes.
Roumania:	Constanza.
Spain:	Avilles, Burriana, Gandia, Malaja.
Sweden:	Domsjo, Gefle, Gothenburg, Halmstad, Helsingborg, Hernosand, Hudiksvall, Karlsborg, Karlshamm, Karlstad, Malmo, Norrkoping, Oskarshamm, Pitea, Sundsvall, Westervick.
U.S.S.R.	Archangel, Igarka, Kaliningrad, Leningrad, Murmansk, Onega, Tallin.

BRITISH ISLES.

Belfast, Cork, Coryton, Drogheda, Dublin, Dundalk, Fawley, Fowey, Greenore, Heysham, Larne, Liverpool, Londonderry, Manchester, Milford Haven, Par, Penmaenmawr, Plymouth, Ramsey, Swansea, Waterford.

There was little change in cargoes arriving in the port.

Section IV - Inland Barge Traffic.

There is no inland barge traffic from or to the Port of Preston.

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

Section V - Water Supply.

1. Source of supply for

(a) The District

The district receives its water from the Preston and District Water Board, and this is an upland surface water derived from the gathering grounds in the Forest of Bowland. The water is of good quality, well suited for drinking and domestic purposes.

(b) Shipping

Shipping is supplied with water from the district supply by means of a hose from a shore hydrant.

2. Reports of Tests for Contamination

Routine samples of drinking water are taken from ships using the Port and the Port Authority's own vessels and otherwise when necessary.

Water Samples

From	Type	Number	Results	
			Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Foreign vessels	Bacteriological	13	10	3
Coastwise vessels	Bacteriological	2	2	-
Port Authority vessels	Bacteriological	6	6	-
TOTALS		21	18	3

No samples were taken for chemical analysis during the year.

The above figures again show the good state of drinking water and equipment generally and the trend towards better living conditions on board ship.

3. The supply of water to shipping is under the direct control of the Port Authority who employ a special staff for this purpose. All precautions necessary to prevent contamination of hoses and hydrants are taken.

4. There are no water boats in the Port of Preston.

Section VI - Public Health (Ships) Regulations, 1952.

1. List of Infected Areas.

The list of infected areas is prepared from, and amended as necessary, with details obtained from the World Health Organisation in the Weekly Epidemiological Record and is drawn up in the form of the lit supplied. Copies of the list are supplied to the Trinity House Pilotage Office, Preston, and H.M. Waterguard Office, Preston.

2. Radio Messages.

Preston is not a radio transmitting or receiving port.

3. Notification otherwise than by Radio.

The Port Medical Officer is notified by telephone of any untoward circumstances on board an incoming vessel after such details have been passed to the Port Authority's barge at Lytham.

Cases of sickness are dealt with by the Boarding Medical Officer.

4. Mooring Stations.

By agreement with the Port Authority arrangements exist for the bfeasting off of any ship at the discharging berths allocated, where such action is considered necessary by the Port Medical Officer. This is done by placing one of the barges of about 20 feet beam which are always available between the vessel and the quay, whilst the vessel is subjected to the prescribed measures.

This arrangement obviates the necessity of moving the vessel from one berth to another and facilitiates the discharge of her cargo whether during or when freed from control.

5. Arrangements for:-

(a) Hospital accommodation for infectious diseases.

All cases of infectious disease other than smallpox are removed to Deepdale Hospital, Blackpool Road, Preston.

(b) Surveillance and follow-up of contacts.

Surveillance is carried out as suggested in Section 18(2) and Section 37 of the Public Health (Ships) Regulations, 1952.

(c) Cleansing and Disinfection of ships, persons, clothing and other articles.

The cleansing and disinfection of ships is carried out under the supervision of the Port Health Inspector. Clothing, bedding, etc. are removed in the Health Department's disinfection vehicles to the disinfection plant at Deepdale Hospital for steam disinfection.

Arrangements are also in existence for persons to be cleansed and disinfested. This is carried out at Cuttle Street and Greenbank clinics the latter providing new modern facilities in replacement of the temporary facilities used at Ellen Street since the second world war.

Section VII - Smallpox.

(1) The reception of smallpox cases into hospital is in the hands of the Regional Hospital Board who advise as to which hospital is available for such purpose. Normally, Ainsworth Hospital, Bury, is retained as the first regional hospital to admit cases of smallpox.

(2) Smallpox cases would be removed by ambulance belonging to Preston Corporation. The vaccinal state of the crews of these ambulances is the responsibility of the Medical Officer of Health of the County Borough of Preston.

(3) Smallpox Consultants.

Dr. C. Metcalfe Brown, Town Hall, Manchester.
Manchester Central 3377 and Ringway 4273 (Home)

Dr. D.C. Liddle, Monsall Isolation Hospital,
Newton Heath, Manchester, 10.
Collyhurst 2254 and Collyhurst 1944 (Home)

Dr. E.R. Peirce, 8 Grosvenor Road, Cressington Park,
Liverpool, 19.
Garston 1236.

Professor A.B. Semple, Health Department, Hatton Garden,
Liverpool, 3.
Liverpool Central 8433 and Gateacre 2081 (Home)

(4) Facilities for the laboratory diagnosis of smallpox are available at the Department of Bacteriology, University of Liverpool, under the direction of Professor Downie.

Section VIII - Venereal Disease.

Leaflets giving the undermentioned information as to location, days and hours of available facilities are distributed by the inspectors when vessels are visited:-

The Venereal Disease Clinic at the Preston Royal Infirmary is open

at the following times:-

Tuesday	5 p.m. - 7 p.m.	Women
Wednesday	5 p.m. - 7 p.m.	Men
Thursday	2 p.m. - 4 p.m.	Women
Friday	5 p.m. - 7 p.m.	Men

Male patients from ships likely to sail before the next male clinic can also be seen on Tuesdays or Thursdays.

A supply of glass slides has been issued to ships regularly using the port so that where a suspicion of the disease arises at sea a smear can be made at once and taken to the clinic when the ship arrives in Preston.

46 seamen attended for treatment at the clinic for the first time during the year.

Section IX - Cases of notifiable and other infectious diseases on ships.

TABLE D.

Category	Disease	Number of cases during the year		Number of ships concerned
		passengers	crew	
Cases landed from ships from foreign ports.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Cases which have occurred on ships from foreign ports but have been disposed of before arrival	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Cases landed from other ships	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

No case or suspected case of smallpox, cholera, plague, yellow fever, typhus or relapsing fever occurred during the year.

Section X - Observations on the occurrence of malaria in ships.

No case of malaria occurred during the year.

Section XI - Measures taken against ships with or suspected for plague.

No ship infected with or suspected of carrying plague arrived during the year. In the event of such an occurrence, action in accordance with the measures outlined in Part 1 of the Fourth Schedule Public Health (Ships) Regulations, 1952, would be pursued.

as the following schedule:

Tuesday	5 p.m. - 9 p.m.	Women
Wednesday	3 p.m. - 7 p.m.	Men
Thursday	1 p.m. - 6 p.m.	Women
Friday	1 p.m. - 7 p.m.	Men

Male patients have access (daily) to full medical and surgical care, also dental care and laboratory or therapeutic.

A number of women living and doing labour in order regularly under the care of a qualified midwife of the Barnes Hospital, as well as some use of medical care have been in the village that the full medical care is provided.

Medical attention for students at the clinic for the first time during the year.

Section IV - Number of patients who have been treated in the clinic during the year.

Table I.

Diagnosis	Number	Number of cases seen this year: Previously	New	Number of patients discharged
Bone crushed (see report from Dr. Wilson)	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Bone cut in half (removed in order from Foreign Office and the very best Surgeons of Europe - [illegible])	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Bone broken (see [illegible])	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

Reviews of diagnosis such as malaria, malnutrition, [illegible], [illegible], [illegible] following cases occurred during the year.

Section V - Particulars of the prevalence of malaria in Ubon.

No case of malaria occurred during the year.

Section VI - Particulars of the prevalence of other diseases in the village.

The only diseases with a mortality or morbidity rate worthy of mention are: In the year of some 40 deaths, which is consistent with the medical evidence in year 1 of the Barnes Hospital Medical Report (Ubon) Report, 1924, which is present.

Section XII - Measures against rodents in ships from foreign ports.

(1) Procedure for inspection of ships for rats.

All foreign-going vessels are inspected in the following sequence.

(a) Vessels from infected ports.

(b) Vessels from non-infected ports.

(c) Foreign-going vessels that have arrived from another port in the The British Isles.

A rodent operator sets traps on vessels where evidence of rats is found and revisits these and other vessels from foreign ports while cargo is being discharged.

(2) Arrangements for the bacteriological or pathological examination of rodents, with special reference to rodent plague.

Rodents caught are placed in muslin bags, dipped in paraffin, labelled and despatched to the Public Health Laboratory, Preston.

Three rats were sent for examination during the year with negative results.

(3) Arrangements in the district for deratting ships.

The deratting of vessels prior to the issue of Deratting Certificates may be affected with hydrogen cyanide or sodium fluoroacetate.

The following contractors have intimated their willingness to operate in the port:-

Hivey Fumigation Co. Ltd., Liverpool.
Rentokil Labs. Ltd., Birkenhead.

(4) Progress in the rat-proofing of ships.

Rat-proofing was found in good condition on vessels inspected and no repairs or improvements were required.

TABLE E.

Rodents destroyed during the year in ships from foreign ports.

Category	Number
Black rats	10
Brown rats	-
Species not known	-
Rats sent for examination	3
Rats infected with plague	-
Mice	2

[illegible] - [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible].

(1) [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible].

(a) [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

TABLE F.

Deratting Certificates and Deratting Exemption Certificates issued during the year for ships from foreign ports.

No. of Deratting Certificates issued					Number of Deratting Exemption Certificates issued	Total Certificates issued
After fumigation with H.C.N.	Other fumigant	After trapping	After poisoning	Total		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	-	-	-	1	68	69

The one fumigation carried out using hydrogen cyanide was in respect of a foreign vessel carrying a cargo of potatoes and carrots from Cyprus. Out of the total of 10 black rats killed during the year seven were from this fumigation, and a possible reason for the small number found lay in the existence of a permanent wood lining surrounding the holds and shelterdeck space.

Permanent baiting of the banana boats has again kept the number of rodents found on board at a very low level. This coupled with the rat-proofing generally being of a fairly high standard in shipping using the port has lead to the issue of 68 exemption certificates.

TABLE G.

Inspection of ships for Nuisances

Nature and Number of Inspections		Notices served		Defects remedied
		Statutory notices	Other notices	
Total number of ships inspected ...	491			
The following defects were found:-				
Vermin	5	-		4
Washplaces and fittings defective ...	1	-		1
Drainage defective	2	-		2
Sanitary accommodation defective ...	1	-	20	1
Food stores, preparation places and fittings defective and dirty ...	4	-		1
Drinking water system defective ...	4	-		2
Refuse accumulations	-	-		-
Smoke emissions	5	-		5
Total	22	-	20	16

Table 6.

[illegible] of [illegible] in [illegible] Industrial Conference [illegible] during the [illegible] for which [illegible] were [illegible].

[illegible]	No. of [illegible] [illegible]				Number of [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]	[illegible] [illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]		
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

The [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

Twenty vessels were found to have twenty-two defects or nuisances. Of the twenty-two defects four were due to dirty or defective catering facilities, five due to vermin, and five due to smoke emissions.

The smoke emissions occurred in the few remaining hand fired coal burning ships which trade regularly in the port. Overloading of the coal fires and too little draught were the main causes.

Out of the total of twenty-two defects, sixteen of them are known to have been remedied, the remaining six defects being on foreign vessels which have not yet returned to the port.

Section XIV - Public Health (Shell-Fish) Regulations, 1934-1948.

Mussel gathering is controlled by the Preston (Shell-Fish) Regulations, 1923.

The estuary is still grossly polluted by sewage.

No samples of mussels or cockles were taken during the year.

Section XV - Medical Inspection of Aliens.

Preston was approved for the landing of aliens at the end of August, 1962.

It was not necessary to inspect any aliens during 1963.

Nine Commonwealth immigrants were medically examined during the year. One report was issued in respect of a woman likely to require major medical treatment, but she was permitted to enter the country.

Section XVI - Miscellaneous.

Arrangements for the burial on shore of persons who have died on board ship from infectious disease.

Arrangements for the interment of a deceased member of the crew of any vessel is the concern of the shipping agent and the following procedure would be adopted in the event of a death from infectious disease. The Superintendent of Mercantile Marine acting for the Ministry of Transport would be notified immediately. The body would be removed by the Health Department staff to the mortuary of the Deepdale Hospital, Preston for the purpose of local enquiry and verification of the cause of death.

Food Inspection.

Public Health (Imported Food) Regulations, 1937 and 1948.
Public Health (Preservatives, etc. in Food) Regulations, 1962.
Public Health (Imported Milk) Regulations, 1926.
Food and Drugs Act, 1955.
Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960.
Food Hygiene (Docks, Carriers, etc.) Regulations, 1960.
Colouring Matter in Food Regulations, 1957.
Antioxidant in Food Regulations, 1958.
Fluorine in Food Regulations, 1959.
Arsenic in Food Regulations, 1959.
Meat (Staining and Sterilizing) Regulations, 1960.
Liquid Egg (Pasteurisation) Regulations, 1963.

Imported food consisted mainly of the following types:-

Apples, bacon, bananas, blackberries, canned meats, canned milks and creams, canned fruits and fishes, cheese, chocolate, citrus fruits, confectionery, eggs, frozen milk, herrings, ice cream powder, lard, meat, milk powder, potatoes, poultry, sausage,

Twelve samples of food were taken during the year. Five samples were forwarded to the Public Analyst with the following results:

Type of Food	From	Result
2 samples of fresh grapefruit	West Indies	Satisfactory
3 samples of stewed steak	N. Ireland	1 Low meat content

Seven samples were forwarded to the Public Health Laboratory, Preston for bacteriological examination.

Satisfactory results were obtained from the following:-

1 sample of canned steak
6 samples of bagged mussels.

The following unsound foodstuffs were voluntarily surrendered:-

	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.
Bananas	73	1	-	23
Potatoes	14	15	-	-
Canned Fruit		2	-	4
Total ...	87	18	-	27

No infringement of the Public Health (Imported) Food Regulations regarding Official Certificates occurred.

1963 was a record year in the amount of nett tonnage of cargo imported from Ireland. The Dock Authority continued to install new and replace obsolete equipment for the discharge of vehicles and containers. There is a steady flow of food consignments entering the Port in this way and at times there were up to 35 arrivals of container-carrying vessels or vehicle ferries in a week. Regular visits are paid to these ships to check on consignments but it was not necessary to detain any of them during the year.

The issue of certificates of fitness for human consumption in respect of meat exported to the West Indies ceased during the early part of the year. All the meat concerned is brought from cold stores situated in other areas, direct by road to the ship, and the Authorities where the cold stores are situated now issue the necessary certificates.

The facilities for the removal of ships' refuse has long been a problem. The present arrangements consist of concrete block compounds containing a number of standard refuse bins. These compounds are conveniently placed on the quayside where access is made easy both for the emptying of refuse into the bins and for the removal of full ones by Corporation workmen. However, these facilities are constantly misused and refuse is spread on the floor of the compound and the surrounding quayside. Larger containers of 2/3 cubic yard capacity are available and could provide a partial solution to this problem.